

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 02359 160736Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /070 W

-----160743Z 059164 /21

R 160627Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6062

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 2359

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, SHUM, RP, (BUTLER, WILLIAM J.; HUMPHREY, JOHN P.)

SUBJ: VISIT OF ICJ REPRESENTATIVES

REF: STATE 027229

1. SUMMARY: A HIGH-LEVEL TEAM OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS IS CURRENTLY VISITING HERE IN CONNECTION WITH A FORTHCOMING ICJ REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PHILIPPINES. THE TEAM IS RECEIVING GOOD COOPERATION FROM THE GOP. WE ESTIMATE THAT THE REPORT, WHICH IS DUE FOR RELEASE IN JUNE, WILL BE A RELATIVELY BALANCED AND MODERATE EFFORT. END SUMMARY.

2. WILLIAM J. BUTLER, CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS (ICJ), CALLED ON AMBASSADOR FEBRUARY 15. HE AND HIS COLLEAGUE, JOHN P. HUMPHREY, ARE CURRENTLY VISITING THE PHILIPPINES (UNTIL APPROXIMATELY FEBRUARY 26) IN CONNECTION WITH A FORTHCOMING ICJ REPORT ON QUOTE HUMAN RIGHTS UNDER MARTIAL LAW IN THE PHILIPPINES UNQUOTE. DURING ITS STAY HERE ICJ TEAM EXPECTS TO MEET WITH A WIDE RANGE OF OFFICIALS AND PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS. AMONG ITS CLOSEST CONTACTS ARE SOLICITOR GENERAL MENDOZA, WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW (WPTL) OFFICIAL, ATTORNEY MUTOC, JUSTICE SECRETARY ABAD SANTOS AND SUPREME COURT JUSTICE FERNANDO. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANILA 02359 160736Z

TEAM WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH AQUINO FAMILY AND ALSO PLANS VISIT DETENTION CENTERS AT BICUTAN, DAVAO AND CEBU. BUTLER HAS INDICATION THAT PRESIDENT MARCOS WOULD LIKE TO SEE HIM, ALTHOUGH BUTLER HAS NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER HE WILL SEEK MEETING WITH PRESIDENT. IN ALL, ICJ MISSION APPEARS TO BE RECEIVING GOOD COOPERATION FROM GOP.

3. BUTLER INFORMED US THAT HE, HUMPHREY AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND COMMITTEE OF THE ICJ WILL BE PUTTING THE FINAL REPORT TOGETHER. BUTLER PLANS THAT THE REPORT WILL BE COMPLETED AND RELEASED BY JUNE -- PRIOR TO THE WPTL CONFERENCE HERE IN AUGUST. HE NOTED THAT THE ICJ REPORT WILL NOT FOLLOW THE PATTERN OF THE NARROW HUMAN RIGHTS APPROACH OF THE AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT. RATHER, BUTLER AND HIS ASSOCIATES WILL SEEK TO DISCUSS HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE BROADER SOCIAL-ECONOMIC-POLITICAL CONTEXT WHICH OBTAINS HERE. IN THIS CONNECTION BUTLER HAS ASKED FOR MATERIALS ON THE PROGRESS OF THE LAND REFORM PROGRAM WHICH WE WILL PROVIDE.

4. BUTLER EXPRESSED TO US HIS FEELING THAT THINGS WERE GETTING BETTER HERE IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD, INCLUDING THE ISSUE OF TORTURE, SINCE HIS VISIT ALMOST TWO YEARS AGO. HE OPINED THAT THERE IS NO GENERAL PATTERN OF TORTURE, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE INSTANCES OF IT IN THE POST-ARREST, PRE-DETENTION PERIOD. HE TOLD US, INCIDENTALLY, THAT HE HAS THE QUOTE COMPLETE DOSSIER UNQUOTE ON THE PURIFICACION PEDRO CASE (MANILA 2206). HE ALSO SAID HE WOULD ASK DND SECRETARY ENRILE FOR THE RECORDS OF ALL MILITARY COURTS MARTIAL CONCERNING TORTURE CASES SINCE THE ONSET OF MARTIAL LAW.

5. BUTLER COMMENTED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE OF AN ACCOMMODATION BETWEEN CHURCH AND GOVERNMENT HERE. HE EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THE GOP'S CRACKDOWN AGAINST CERTAIN CHURCH ELEMENTS IN DAVAO LATE LAST YEAR,  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MANILA 02359 160736Z

ATTRIBUTING THIS TO THE INFLUENCE OF THE MILITARY, AS WELL AS TO THAT OF PANAMIN. BUTLER APPEARS TO BE IN FAIRLY REGULAR TOUCH WITH CHURCH DISSIDENTS. HE NOTED FOR EXAMPLE THAT CLAVER HAD SPENT THREE HOURS WITH HIM IN NEW YORK DURING THE BISHOP'S VISIT TO THE U.S. LAST YEAR.

6. COMMENT: FROM BUTLER'S REMARKS, WE WOULD ESTIMATE THAT THE ICJ INTENDS TO PRODUCE A RELATIVELY BALANCED AND MODERATE REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PHILIPPINES.  
SULLIVAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MANILA02359  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770054-1041  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MANILA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770236/aaaabfzp.tel  
**Line Count:** 107  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 21efa1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 27229  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3307786  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT OF ICJ REPRESENTATIVES  
**TAGS:** OVIP, SHUM, RP, (BUTLER, WILLIAM J), (HUMPHREY, JOHN P)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/21efa1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009